RG104 E-1 Box 173

Treasury Department,

BUREAU OF THE MINT,

Washington, D. C., October 24, 1891.

The Superintendent, U. S. Mint,

Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Acknowledging the receipt of a package containing three experimental half-dollars, from new designs, and also referring to the points raised in your letter, I have to say as follows:

1. I agree with the engraver that the six pointed star looks richer, and you are authorized to use it on the obverse, or face of the design. This will complete the obverse, so that you can begin the preparation of hubs and working dies of the coinage of 1892.

2. I incline to your opinion that the reverse with the wreath is more artistic, but at the same time, it does not bring out the eagle as prominently as the one without it.

I have submitted the pieces to the two Assistant Secretaries who are here, and they are divided in opinion on the subject - one preferring the design without the wreath and the other the one with the wreath. I must confess that I am very much at sea on the subject. I like them both immensely, but in view of the fact that the Secretary of the Treasury preferred that the wreath be omitted I have decided to hold these pieces until his return to the city, which will be on the 4th or 5th of next month, when I will imme-

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diately ~~deliver~~ show them to him, and telegraph you which one is to be adopted.

I regret that this will delay the preparation of the hubs and dies for the reverse, but under the circumstances I think it is best to wait that period of time in order to let him pass upon the question.

The five pointed stars will be used on the reverse.

I doubt the lagality of striking pieces for the cabinet, from designs not adopted, but I will talk to you on the subject when I see you personally.

I have placed the plaster models in the hands of the photographer of the Treasury Department who is going to make photographs of them, and he thinks he can do very good work.

Very rsspectfully,

E. O. Lueb

Director.

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Treasury Department
Washington D.C.
October 24 91

E. O. Leech.
Director.

Acknowledging receipt of package containing three experimental half dollars from new designs — also — as to points raised in Sept's letter of 28'.

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OCT 26 1891
U. S. MINT, PHILA.

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 173

[Abstract:] Acknowledging receipt of package containing three experimental half dollars from new designs – also – as to points raised in Supt's letter of 23'.

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Washington, D.C.,
October 24, 1891

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E.O. Leech
Director.